PRESIDENT NOT DISPOSED TO RUSH RECIPROCITY.

Practical Details and Results to Be Carefully Considered Before Any of the Kasson Treaties Are Resubmitted to the Senate for Ratification.

Free Trade and other newspapers which so glibly misinterpret the late president's attitude with regard to foreign trade extension, and who so confidently count upon President Roosevelt to make good their misinterpretation, would do well to pattern after the intelligent reasonableness of the following statement by the Washington correspondent of the New York Times:

"There will be no precipitate action by the president on the subject of reciprocity. The agitation on this subject in some of the newspapers, with assertions bolstered up by quotations from Mr. Roosevelt's public assurances, whether intended to help the cause of reciprocity or to prejudice it, has no warrant further than that intended in the promise of the president to adhere to the policies of McKin'ey. The subject is a large and complica ed one, and not even Mr. McKinley, after years of experience, was prepared to say just what the details of a reciprocity treaty with a foreign country should be. A reciprocity policy cannot be defined in any but the most general terms by the executive, and with the legislative branch must rest the task of providing the details."

It is well and truly said that the subject of rec'procity is "a large and complicated one"-so la-ge and so complicated that not even President McKinley, with his wealth of practical knowledge in tariff matters, could or did claim to have mastered it. Unlike that rather numerous brood of quick thinkers who imagine they have solved the intricate problem after having given it a cursory glance, and who don't trouble themselves about the working details, Mr McKin'ey considered it to be his duty to go into the reciprocity question deeply and thoroughly. He had previously turned the matter over to hands and heads which he supposed were competent, only to find out that they were bunglers and botchers. So, in the last few months of his life he had devoted himself studiously to the examination of reciprocity, alike on general principles and in detailed workings. The result of his painstaking investigation was the Buffalo speech, in which he declared for the enlargement of our foreign trade through a scheme of reciprocals concessions such as should not curtail domestic production. In his judgment, reciprocity that should increase the imports of articles "which we ourselves produce" was not reciprocity at all; it was free trade in dis-

It was this deep seated conviction which animated the statement by President McKinley to a close and confidential friend, in Washington, on the afternoon of June 6, 1901, to the effect that he (the president) favored only that plan of reciprocity sanctioned by the Republican national platform of 1900-namely, reciprocity "in articles which we do not ourselves produce," and that he was opposed to any scheme of trade extension that would take from a single American workman his job. There is precisely where William McKinley stood at the end of the first week in June, at a time when the quick thinkers had him all thought out as ready to abandon protection, and that is where he stood when at Buffalo in the first week of September he made his last great speech.

Hence, we say, the over-night theorists would do well to think again once or twice before they attribute to the dead president and to his successor in office views and purposes regarding reciprocity not entertained by either Mr. McKinley or Mr. Roosevelt. The policy of McKinley is to be continued absolutely unbroken by Roosevelt. The country has this pledge recorded, as it were, over McKinley's coffin. Of its conscientious fulfillment by President Roosevelt there is no possible doubt. There will be, as the Times' Washington correspondent states, "no precipitate action by the president on the subject of reciprocity." That is, the foolish treat'es negot ated by Commissioner Kasson will not again be laid before the senate for ratification. Other treaties there may be, but, if so, they will be treaties framed in accord with the spirit of American prosperity and progress, and not free trade folly under the mask of so-called reciprocity.

WAGES AND LIVING.

Foreign Work People Cannot Live More Cheaply Than Americans.

The old stock argument of the free traders used to be when, in spite of their squirming, they were brought face to face with the fact that wages were higher in this country than abroad, that, although wages were higher, the cost of living was higher, too, and that, therefore, workmen in this country were at no advantage, and that free trade, while it would lower wages, would at the same time lower the cost of living. This argument has fallen somewhat into "innocuous descutude" of late, yet occasionally it stalks abroad, like Banquo's ghost. It is interesting, therefore, to note that Mr. Jacob Weidmann, a prominent silk dyer of Paterson, N. J., states that while the wages of the workmen employed in h's mill at Paterson are from two to four times as large as the wages paid to similar labor in Switzerland, which is Mr. Weldmann's native country, the cost of living is less. In Swit-

DELIBERATE ACTION, zerland a good silk dyer = paid \$4 weak; in this country the poorest dyer get \$9 per week. The best dyers in Switzer and are paid from \$5 to \$8 pe week, while in this country the best dyers earn from \$15 to \$30 per week These are actual figures, given by man who knows. There is no guess wo:k about them, n ither is there any guesswork about Mr. Weidmann's statement concerning the comparative cost of living, for, as he states, some of the men employed in his mills who have come to this country from abroad have kept records, and have found that they can live more cheaply in this country. When free trade is forced to meet facts it always gets the worst of things.

GERMANY'S TARIFF EXPERIMENT.

A high German official said to the correspondent of the Associated Presi in Berlin that "foreign newspapers need not get excited over the new tariff," the text of which has just been published, "since nothing has been decided; the bill is only a basis for dis cussion." It has been eminently successful in provoking discussion at any rate. In this country the press comment has been temperate enough-the verdict being that the tariff seems dis advantageous to the interests of industrial Germany. But in Russia and Austria, against which the new tariff operates more severely than against the United States, strong resentment is shown by all newspapers. It will be remembered that a few weeks ago there was talk of a great European combination against the United States. The first aggressive movement made by Germany hits her neighbors harder than it does America and furnishes an instructive commentary on the futility of the suggestion of a European anti-American Zollverein.-Buffalo Com-

A VERY BAD CHILD.



A QUESTION OF "SUGAR."

The consumption of sugar last year in the United States averaged about 57 pounds for each inhabitant, which at 51/2 cents a pound would cost \$3.42 apiece, or \$16.10 for a family of five persons. If the duty were removed and the Sugar Trust allowed the people to get the benefit thereof the saving would be \$1.14 for each person, or \$5.70 for a family of five, for a whole year. There is neither certainty nor probability that the saving would be as great as that, but there is almost a certainty that whatever reduction should be allowed would be made for the purpose of breaking down the domestic beet sugar industry, which is now the source o. wages and income to 1,600,000 per-

Would the saving secured by removing the duty on raw sugar pay for endangering the life of so important an American industry and one which in a few years promises to supply all the sugar needed and at lower prices than ever before known? What intelligent man would consent to be bribed with \$5.70 to bring about a possible disaster to so useful and beneficial a business

Mischief for Idle Hands.

When men or women have plenty of serious work to do they don't potter with trifles. It is the idle who make mountains of molehills. If the Democratic party had any great or true aim for the real good of the country it would not bother itself and harass the voters over such a petty and utterly useless issue as the repeal of duties which, it claims, are outgrown and therefore inoperative. Its patron saint for such enterprises is Don Quixote. The party can only make itself respectable by tackling the main question and fighting protection squarely on its merits. In doing so it may expose its blindness to a thousand obvious facts and its obtuseness to sound reason, but it does thereby escape con-

The German Tariff.

All the commercial barriers that could be raised against other lands would not enable Germany to raise all her breadstuffs. During the year ending June 30, 1899, Germany imported from the United States 290,710,196 pounds of hog products alone, much greater than we sold to any other nation except the United Kingdom. It is a safe assumption, therefore, that the tariff law that is now before the federal council and which will be passed the agrarians is not the schedule of impost duties that will go go into effect on January 1, 1904.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Producers and Consumers.

Like other theorists free traders have ever tried to separate producers and consumers into distinct class with contrary interests. How futile In our day and country the produ

Hall's Family Pills are the best. When American meets Greek the

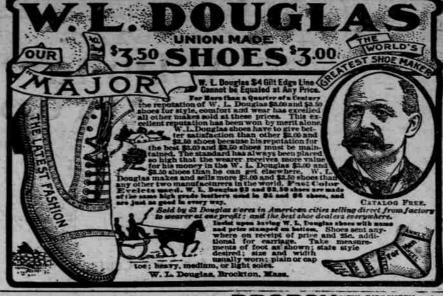
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